स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (डा० सी० सिल्वेरा): (क) जून, 1995 के अंत तक, देश में 7.05 लाख कुष्ठ रोगी होने की सूचना है।

(ख) इनमें से लगभग 15.2 प्रतिशत रोगी बिहार में हैं।

(ग) सन् 2000 ईस्वी तक भारत में कुष्ठ उन्मूलन करने के उद्देश्य से एक केन्द्र प्रायोजित योजना के रूप में राष्ट्रीय कुष्ठ उन्मूलन कार्यक्रम चलाया जा रहा है। इस कार्यक्रम के अंतर्गत कुष्ठ रोगियों को मल्टी ड्रग थिरैपी (एम०डी०टी०) उपचार सेवाएं निःशुल्क उपलब्ध कराई जाती हैं।

Retraining and Redeployment of surplus workers

1734. SHRI SANJAY DALMIA:
DR. BAPU KALDATE:
SHRI MOOLCHAND MEENA:
SHRI AJIT P.K. JOGI:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have finalised the programme of retrainnig and redeployment of surplus workers;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to utilise the funds available with national renewal fund for this purpose; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) to (c) The National Renewal Fund was set up by the Government in February, 1992 to provide a social safety net for workers affected by industrial restructuring, technological upgradation and modernisation of Indian Industry. It, inter-alia, envisages assistance for counselling, retraining and redeployment of affected workers. Pilot schemes for retraining and counselling of rationalised workers were undertaken by setting up of five Employee Assistance Centres (EACs) at Ahmedabad, Calcutta, Indore, Kanpur and Bombay. Similar facilities have been extended by Ministry of Labour through six Advanced Training Institutes and 15 Industrial Training Institutes. 33 additional locations have also been identified for setting up of Employee Assistance Centres.

Revival of Mandya National Paper Mill

1735. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering revival of the Mandya National Paper Mills which is the subsidiary of Hindustan Paper Corporation;

(b) what is the total investment required for revival of this Mill;

(c) whether Government would revive the unit and if not, whether Government are considering offering the unit to private sector; and

(d) by when Government are going to take the final decision in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per the latest report of the Operating Agency (OA) cost of revival would be Rs. 30.02 crores.

(c) and (d) Final decision has not yet been taken by the Government. OA has received offers from private parties. Government would take a decision after examination of the report to be submitted by OA as per directions given by BIFR in hearing held on 28.6.1995.

Losses incurred by HMT division in Bangalore and Pinjore

1736. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the HMT divisions in Bangalore and Pinjore are continuing losses since the last few years;

(b) if so, the factors responsible for such losses;

(c) whether Government have permitted HMT to have Joint Venture with any of the foreign companies;

(d) if so, whether the HMT Officers Association have urged the Government to have revival scheme of HMT rather than to permit a Joint Venutre; and

(e) if so, further reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) HMT has incurred losses during 1993-94 and 1994-95.

(b) The factors responsible for losses in HMT include stiff competition, product obsolescence and high overheads.

(c) to (e) The crucial need of HMT is restructuring financial investment and technology upgradation. The basic reason for the poor performance of the company is its inability to compete in the changed business environment in technology, quality, price and marketing. Government has, therefore, approved 'in principle' conversion of individual business groups of HMT into joint venture companies with international partners who may have majority equity share holding, if it is in HMT's interest.

Outlay for Rural Development

1737. SHRI BHAGABAN MAJHI: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total plan outlay fixed for various rural development activities for different States during 1992-93, 1993-94 and 1994-95;

(b) whether there is a need to enhance the allocation for rural development activities; and

(c) if so, the steps taken for the remaining years of Eighth Plan and Ninth Plan too?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS & EMPLOYMENT (SHRI UTTAMBHAI PATEL): (a) (i) Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP), (ii) Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY), (iii) Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS), (iv) Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP) and (v) Desert Develoment Programme (DDP) are important rural development programmes being implemented by the Central Government in various States/UTs. The total allocation for these programmes for different States during 1992-93, 1993-94 & 1994-95 are given in Statement to IV (*See* below)

(b) and (c) The Central outlay during the 8th Plan for these Programmes is as under:

(Rs. in crores)

Programme	8th Plan Outlay
1. I.R.D.P.	3350
2. J.R.Y.	18400
3. D.P.A.P.	500
4. DDP.	500

State-wise allocation for the years 1995-96 & 1996-97 and total outlay for 9th plan has not yet been finalised.